

**Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board**

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY BOARD**

University of California Los Angeles Medical Center
200 UCLA Medical Plaza NPI-68-236 A & B
Los Angeles, CA 90095-6955

**AUDIOLOGY PRACTICE COMMITTEE
April 29, 2005
MEETING MINUTES**

Committee Members Present

Rebecca Bingea, M.A., Chairperson
Marcia Raggio, Ph.D.
Alison Grimes, Au.D.

Staff Present

Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Executive Officer
Candace Raney, Staff Analyst
Lori Pinson, Staff Analyst
George Ritter, Legal Counsel

Board Members Present

Jennifer Hancock, M.A.
Carol Murphy, M.A.
Lisa O'Connor, M.A.

Guests Present

Linda Gasson, Speech-Language Pathologist, Providence St. Joseph
Chandra Carter, Audiologist, Providence St. Joseph
Patti Hamaguchi, Hamaguchi & Assoc, CSHA APD Taskforce
Carl Nelson, Physical Therapy Board of California

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Bingea called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

III. Review Website Posting Referencing Professional Research on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) – (Members of the California Speech-Language-Hearing Association APD Task Force, Present)

Ms. Bingea stated that Ms. Raggio had previously brought the issue before the Board at the July 2004 Audiology Practice Committee meeting to discuss the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's professional position paper on APD and to address potential consumer protection issues related to diagnosing and treating individuals "labeled" with APD. She stated that Ms. Grimes has been instrumental in preparing an informational document regarding Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) for the purpose of posting it to the Board's website for the education of consumers and licensees.

Ms. Raggio explained that there are individuals that may be offering diagnosis and treatment of APD, claiming that APD is curable with a few treatments and a significant monetary investment. She stated that, at this point in time, there are not sufficient evidence and data to support these claims. She stated that, as a board member, she feels this could be a considerable consumer protection issue. Ms. Raggio commended Ms. Grimes for her efforts in preparation of the draft position statement.

Ms. Grimes stated that because the school systems are under a legal mandate to provide services as recommended through the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process, the school systems are, at times, requesting professionals to perform testing and assessment that may not be appropriate.

The Committee held an in-depth discussion regarding the draft statement, and also discussed proposed edits to the document.

M/S/C: Grimes/Raggio

The Committee voted to present the document regarding Auditory Processing Disorder to the Board with a recommendation for adoption as an informational publication to be posted on the Board's website.

IV. Legislation

AB 615 Vargas – Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Sales

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that AB 615 was scheduled for hearing. However, the hearing was cancelled by the author. She stated that the future of the bill is uncertain.

The Committee discussed concerns regarding the purchase of over-the-counter hearing aids, including situations where an individual with a serious health condition contributing to their hearing loss purchases an over-the-counter hearing aid that masks their symptoms and delays them from seeking medical attention and/or treatment. Alternatively, the point was made that if an individual purchases an over-the-counter hearing aid and experiences better hearing, it may motivate them to seek professional services and obtain a more sophisticated or personalized device.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that, since the bill appears to be on hold, there is no immediate need for the Committee to take a formal position. She stated that she will continue to track this bill and provide an update at the next Audiology Practice Committee meeting.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Bingea adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Executive Officer